

Romer, J., Hermann, H. "Significance of Tobacco Smoking for Asthma and Rhinitis" Ugeskr Laeger 145(13): 1025-1027, 1983.

ABSTRACT: Forty-one patients with asthmatic and/or rhinitis and 41 controls of the same age and sex distribution were interviewed about the influence of smoking on health and about their attitude towards the prohibition of smoking in public places.

The study shows that 50% of the asthmatic patients and 36% of the patients with rhinitis develop, at least occasionally, attacks when exposed to smoking.

An increased tendency to coughs and colds was present in both control and patient groups. The numbers are too small to be conclusive. No tendency to an increased incidence of sinusitis [sic] or otitis was observed.

The study points out a significant difference between the patient group and the control group's social engagements, because the allergic patients, to a certain extent, stay away from meetings where smoking occurs.

There are fewer smokers among the allergic patients than among the controls, but the difference is not significant.

Finally, the study shows, in both the patient group and the control group, such a strong dislike of enforced passive smoking that a ban on smoking in public places should be seriously considered, with the provision of special smoking rooms.

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